

# June

## Magic Lantern Society **NEWS** 2010



### Convention Highlights



#### Thursday 20th May

- 11 am-4 pm Registration—Lilly Library (campus)
- 11 am-4 pm **Lilly Lantern Exhibition**  
(Lilly Library, campus) meet in lobby
- 1 am-2 pm **Light and the Creation of Moods** Art Museum Tour I  
(campus) meet in lobby (Repeated Friday 2:30-3:30 pm)
- 1:30-4:00 pm **Digitization Seminar**  
Wells Library E174 [Media Screening Room] (campus)
- 2:45-3:45 pm **Lilly Treasures Seminar I** (campus)  
Check-in at the front desk  
(Seminar repeated Friday 3:45-4:45 pm)
- 4 pm **Opening Reception**, Lilly Library (campus)
- 6 pm Dinner (on own, on or near campus)
- 8 pm **Nickel Madness**, Russell Merritt  
(Nickelodeon Show) Fine Arts Auditorium (campus)



*more convention highlights next page*

## Check these out!

Be sure to click on the various buttons on this page to catch the latest news.

## Friday 21st May

- 8:00 am Set up Sales Room
- 9-9:30 am Open Sales Room
- 9-9:30 am Registration
- 9:30 am Opening Comments
- 9:45-10:45 am **Finding the Lost Lanternists**  
*George Reed Cromwell: America's Most Famous Forgotten Magic Lantern Lecturer*, Kentwood Wells  
*Roth Brothers (Pennsylvania) present a Novelty Musical Act*, Richard Beards Act
- 10:45-11:15 am Coffee/Sales Room open
- 11:15 am-12:15 pm **Open Discussion Session/Show-and-Tell**  
*The Temperance lantern in South-East England & Internet Research Resources*, Richard Crangle
- 12:15-1:30 pm Lunch (on own, downtown)
- 1:30-2 pm Auction Turn-Ins
- 1:30-2 pm Sales Room Open
- 2-5 pm Grand Optical Variety Show rehearsals (performers only)
- 2-3:30 pm **Making and Repairing Mechanical Lantern Slides**, Workshop, Lindsay Lambert
- 2-5 pm **Lilly Lantern Exhibition** (Lilly Library, campus) meet in lobby
- 2:30-3:30 **Light and the Creation of Moods** Art Museum Tour II (campus) meet in lobby
- 3:30-5 pm **Open Discussion Session/Show-and-Tell**  
*The Great NCR Slide Cache & What to Do With It*, Kevin Worn
- 3:45-4:45 pm **Lilly Treasures Seminar I** (campus)  
 Check-in at the front desk
- 5:30 pm **Convention Dinner**, Farm Restaurant (downtown)
- 7:30 pm **Grand Optical Variety Show**  
 Buskirk-Chumley Theater (downtown)



Welcome to first time convention attendees and new members



Sales room activity



Convention Dinner





## Saturday 22nd May

8-9 am Sales Room open and Registration Open

8-9 am Auction Turn-Ins

### 9:15-10:15 am The Magic Lantern Experience Part I

*Missionaries and the Magic Lantern*, Stephen Bottomore

*Lantern Reading Competitions & How People*

*Understood Lantern Lectures*, Yoriko Iwata

10:15-11 am Coffee/Sales Room Open

### 11 am-Noon The Magic Lantern Experience Part II

*From Circle to Oblong*, Ted Hovet

*This New-Old Art: William Morris, Lantern-Lectures and*

*the founding of Kelmescott Press*, John Plotz

Noon-1:15 pm Lunch (on own, downtown)

1:15-2 pm *Lantern Slides and Moveable Books*,

Presentation/Workshop Larry Rakow

### 2-3:30 pm The Lantern and Other Media

*Lantern Song-Slides and Song Postcards*, Gert Westerhout

*Nickelodeon Lantern Slides*, Galen Wilkes

### P.S. Diorama Practices of Robert Winter and

*Mark R. Harrison (revised)*, Suzanne Wray

3:30-4 pm Coffee/Sales Room Open

### 4-5 pm Open Discussion Session/Show-and-Tell

*Lantern-Slide "Services of Song"*, Philip Carli

5:00-5:30 pm Sales Room Open —Last Call

5-6 pm Final Auction Turn-Ins

6 pm Dinner (on own, downtown)

8 pm *Picture the Songs*, Margaret Bergh )



and of course more sales room



## Sunday 23rd May

- 8-9:30 am **Keys to Successful Showmanship**, Terry Borton Workshop
- 9:30-10 am Coffee/Ballots
- 10-11:30 am **Business Meeting and Awards**
- 11:30-1 pm Lunch (on own, downtown)
- 12:00-1 pm Auction Preview
- 1-3 pm **Auction**
- 3 pm End of Convention.
  
- 7 pm **Silent Film Program**  
**Buster Keaton**  
**Steamboat Bill, Jr 1928 71 min.**  
 Whittenberger Auditorium (campus)



election results



President Debbie



Gazette Editor Report



Auction helpers



Auctioneer entertainment



Auction



**Here is some of the great publicity we got in the Indiana area.**



*If you would like to read the complete article e-mail me and I will send the complete PDF file to you.*

### **Convention Gift Thank-you**

Thanks for **Sharon and Mike Koch** for donating the magic lantern magnets included in the registration packets.

### **Thanks to photographers:**

**Sharon Koch and Michael Lawlor** for the images shown here of the convention.

Now is the time to mark those  
calendars for the next convention.  
Either last two weeks of May or  
first two weeks of June.  
We will keep you posted!  
Hope to see you in Tacoma 2012

### **NOTE**

At the beginning of the business meeting John Davidson, in fine voice, treated the attendees to a wonderful a cap pel la rendition of "the infernal machine" in a glorious tribute to Brenda Weber's stirring recitation of the "Schmidt Brothers and the Fatal Sausage Machine" from Friday evening's Grand Optical Show.

#### **Johnny Rebec**

##### *Chorus:*

Oh, Mister, mister, Johnny Rebec, how could you be so mean?  
I told you you'd be sorry for inventing that machine.  
Now all the neighbors cats and dogs will never more be seen  
They'll all be ground to sausage-meat, in Johnny Rebec's machine!

One day the machine was broken, the darn' thing wouldn't go,  
So Johnny Rebec, he crawled inside, to see what made it so,  
His wife was having a nightmare, and walking in her sleep,  
She gave the CRANK, a heck of a YANK, and Johnny Rebec was meat!

### **Some things never change**

*From Brian Rogers, Fairbanks, AK*

**Life imitates Magic Lantern show.** This is almost too much to believe in today's news.

Cheers,

**Brian Rogers**

Police: Man sucked into sausage seasoning machine - Yahoo! News

Check out the site below.

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20100523/ap\\_on\\_fe\\_st/us\\_odd\\_sausage\\_machine\\_mishap](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20100523/ap_on_fe_st/us_odd_sausage_machine_mishap)

## Welcome New Members

May 2010

### Rob Byrne

Oakland, CA  
Board of Directors, San Francisco Silent Film Festival  
Interests: Lanterns: Used in cinema; Slides: Coming attractions, slides used in cinemas;  
Literature: History, cinematic applications; Vintage Cinema: All.

May 2010 –Joined at the Bloomington Convention

### Richard Crangle

Freelance Reseacher  
Interests: Slide: Mainly British - life model/ lectures; Literature: Readings, trade journals, etc.

### Genna Guenther

Woodridge, IL  
Interests: Lanterns; Kinetic Devices; Vintage Cinema.

### Susan Williams

Bloomington, IN  
Librarian/Cataloger  
Interests: Lanterns; Slides (cataloger).

### Karin Bienek and Ludwig Maria Vogl

Bad Camberg, Germany  
Gives Magic Lantern Shows and performs Serpentine dance.  
Interests: Slides; Literature.  
Website: [www.illuminago.de](http://www.illuminago.de)

## Sharing his lantern set-up

Society member **David MacLean** is from Oswego, NY and was one of the attendees at the Bloomington Convention.



If you have any questions for David about his set-up feel free to [e-mail](#) him.



David's comments: "I started building the setup about four years ago. At first I had just one lantern, fake gas bags and a small yard tractor battery. Further time and research brought the second lantern and carrying case with dissolve setup. The black cart is this years addition and replaces wooden folding tables. The cart is actually rebuilt from a display cart I used for Civil War tinware which is may 'day job' at Civil War events. So far I have only done Civil War events."





## EVENTS PAST

**From:**  
<http://www.myxworld.org/upcoming-events/>

### SECOND SUNDAYS AT THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

Sunday May 9th, 2010

#### The Magical Magic Lantern

Before the invention of movie and slide projectors, audiences were delighted by the magic lantern. On May 9, make your own magic lantern with artist Shelley Hedlund of MYX: Multicultural Youth eXchange. And don't forget to check out the Dialogues with Darwin exhibition, which features modern interpretations of magic lanterns created by artist Eve Andrée Laramée.

This Second Sunday is a collaboration between the APS Museum and MYX: Multicultural Youth eXchange. Second Sundays are family-friendly afternoons (for ages 5+) at the APS Museum, featuring activities and/or demonstrations inspired by the Dialogues with Darwin exhibition.

Drop in between 1 and 4pm FREE admission

APS Museum  
104 S. 5th St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

*If anyone made this show or knows anything more please share your experience and knowledge with the society. Click to: [Mail to Larry](#).*

#### Snowflakes at Mensa

*Review from Mensa Newsletter*

Monday, May 24, 2010  
10:03 PM

Shel Izen's presentation at our May gathering was a surprising and memorable affair. The title of the presentation, "No Two Alike!" promised an exploration of snowflakes, based on the work of Wilson Bentley, who later in life became known affectionately as "The Snowflake Man".

Mensans who were expecting a dry lecture on the science of snowflake formation were in for a surprise when Shel took the stage and proceeded to share with us an excerpt from his recently published article that tells the life story of Wilson Bentley. Shel shared the story of a scientist, but also the story of a life which was filled with passion for art, love of nature, and a lonely quest to document the beauty in our world. Shel's retelling of this story was mesmerizing, and as the story unfolded, it was clear that he felt a kinship with this under appreciated man.

Wilson Bentley, who lived from 1865 to 1931, was the first person to ever photograph a single snowflake. In the course of his lifetime, he perfected the technique for doing so, which involves working in freezing weather, painstakingly transferring the flakes to a black card and pressing them with a feather as the delicate crystal is placed into a microscope and camera apparatus. In total, he successfully captured over 5000 images using this technique. His work was published in scientific journals, and while he was able to sell his images to colleges and universities, he made very little money in these endeavors. Money was not his motivation. He was driven by a passion for nature, and the beauty he found in the world.

When Shel concluded his story, he dimmed the lights, and presented a slideshow of Bentley's work using an original lantern slide projector. Choreographing the beautiful images to a musical backdrop, Shel proceeded to show us dozens of images from his collection. Images of incredible detail, that show a fleeting moment in nature. The crystals in these images have a unique living quality to them, as the edges of them are clearly starting to melt and they shimmer in their departure. Somehow, knowing and seeing that these beautiful specimens are only a fraction of a second away from extinction made them that much more special. And knowing how they were loved by the quiet, eccentric, passionate photographer who found them was part of the fun.

As Shel concluded his presentation, and carefully packed the original slides which had been handcrafted by Bentley himself into the antique wooden box that has always been their home, we realized that we had just witnessed a strange intersection of spiritual, scientific, and artistic expression. It was a moving experience which none of us had expected, but we will not soon forget.

In the words of Wilson Bentley: "Oh for a thousand hands, a thousand cameras, to preserve more of this exquisite beauty so lavishly scattered over the earth. And yet there should be no despair, for this miracle, like unto the miracle of spring's awakening, will come and come again for all time, either here or somewhere in the universe, for beauty and life and love are eternal, the things that make the universe worthwhile and justify its existence."

The Snowflake Man lives on in the legacy of these lantern slides, and quiet passion with which Shel Izen shares his work with future generations. For myself, I know this much: I'll never look at a snowflake the same way again.

## Group NW Events to Come

### Group NW to have Workshop Soon

Please join Group NW at any of these events if you are in our area.

#### Agenda



- Storyteller introduction by telling a tale (without slides)
- Demonstration of a tale (with slides)
- "Storytelling 101" how to's and a quick new tale to learn
- Adding music to stories
- Adding audience participation to stories
- Getting creative - making your own slide story
- Story sources

**Saturday  
June 12  
2:00 - 4:00 PM**

at the  
**Law Office of Mike Koch  
2819 NW Kitsap Place, Silverdale, WA**

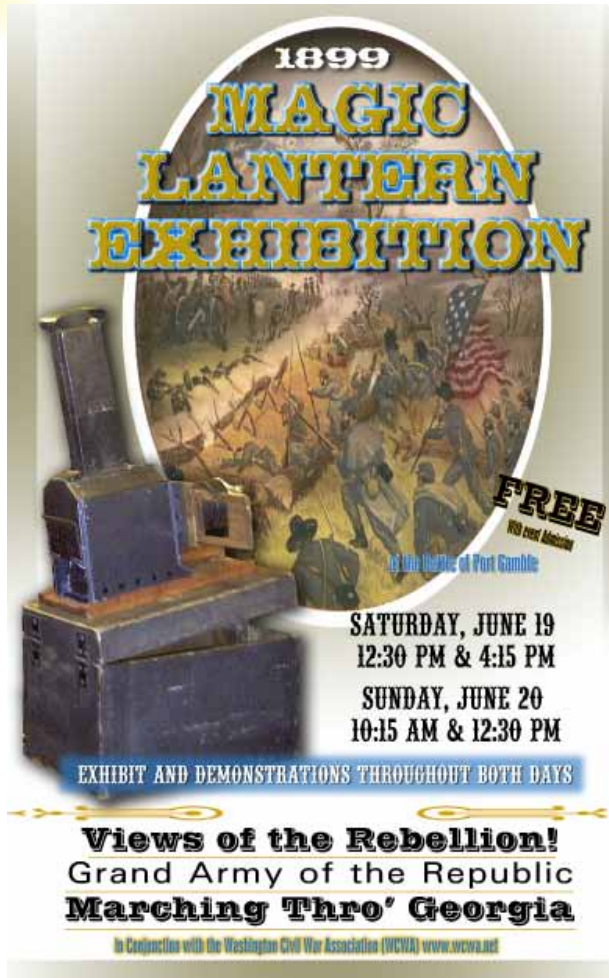
**Cost \$30/participant**

#### Instructor

**Karen Haas** enjoys both telling in "modern times" and bringing the past to life with living history presentations. Her effervescent style engages emotions, from the sublime to the ridiculous, in audiences both young and old. Always enjoying new challenges, she has presented at such "usual" places as libraries, bookstores, schools, senior centers, and churches; as well as "exotic" sites such as 1850s fur trade and Pig War historic re-enactments, a Medieval wedding reception, and ghostly bonfires.



Karen's desire to help revitalize the art of storytelling has led her to conduct workshops for beginning storytellers and on "Telling Your Family Tales." She firmly believes that our stories tell who we are, where we've come from, and where we're going. Her stories, both traditional and new, may bring laughter, tears, shivers, or a deep thought or two, but will always entertain.



### Group NW August Meeting

#### Noon August 15

Ralph and Judie Shape  
3757 So. 194th St.  
Seattle, WA 98188

Please bring salad or dessert for pot luck.  
Remember those show and tells.  
Please RSVP Ralph and Judie Shape  
[RShape@compuserve.com](mailto:RShape@compuserve.com)  
or (206) 592-8270

### Revelstoke Railroad Days

Just a heads-up that Mervyn Heard will be appearing at Revelstoke Railway Days again this year. The main show will be on **Saturday, August 14th** with possibly another on either Friday or Sunday - not sure which at present.

Regards to all.

David Evans

[www.railwaydays.com](http://www.railwaydays.com)



## More From the Members & Other Inquiries

### From Sharon Koch



October 2, 2009 8:31 am

#### Understanding the Magic Lantern

By Catherine Shteynberg, Smithsonian Photography Initiative  
Posted in Collections in Focus, Smithsonian in the Commons



Thornwood Estate in Tacoma, Washington, by Asahel Curtis, August 1933, Smithsonian Archives of American Gardens.

Just the other day we received a comment on one of our photos in the new Flickr Commons set of lantern slides from the Archives of American Gardens. A visitor was interested to know whether or not the black border on one of the lantern slides within the set was original. (For the record, the border is in fact original to the slide.) Looking into this inquiry, I received an education in how lantern slides are made, and so I thought I would share.

"Magic Lantern Slide" technology actually predates the invention of

found this site while searching for something....  
just for interest [http://blog.photography.  
si.edu/2009/10/02/understanding-the-magic-lantern/](http://blog.photography.si.edu/2009/10/02/understanding-the-magic-lantern/)  
have you seen it?

Sharon

### Response to an e-mail to the society

----- Original Message -----

From: dkpa1534@dreamscape.com

To: designerlc@comcast.net

Sent: Sunday, May 9, 2010 12:35:48 PM GMT

-08:00 US/Canada Pacific

Subject: Magic Lantern Slides

Mr. Moore,

My family and I were cleaning out the shed with older family heirlooms and came across 4 boxes filled with Magic Lantern Slides in them. Some are marked with University of New York Education Department. They have many different depictions. Would you know a web site or persons to contact to sell these? Thank you for your time.

Mrs. Pat Sebastian

Mrs Sebastian,

Thank you for your inquiry about selling your lantern slides. The way most owners of slides sell their items is on Ebay. If your not familiar with selling their you can get assistance from by hiring a Trading Assistant. See this web site for information and help in your area. <http://ebaytradingassistant.com/directory/index.php?page=home>

If we can be of any other help please ask.

Larry Cederblom  
Vice President  
Magic Lantern Society  
US and Canada

### Now it's your turn to show and tell!

Here is your chance to share any of your slide images that best say July or summer to you.

Send your images to Larry and they will be shared in the next E-pub newsletter.

If you need some help on how to photograph or scan you slides e-mail for a quick guide on how to copy those slides. **E-mail Larry**

